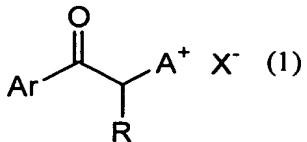


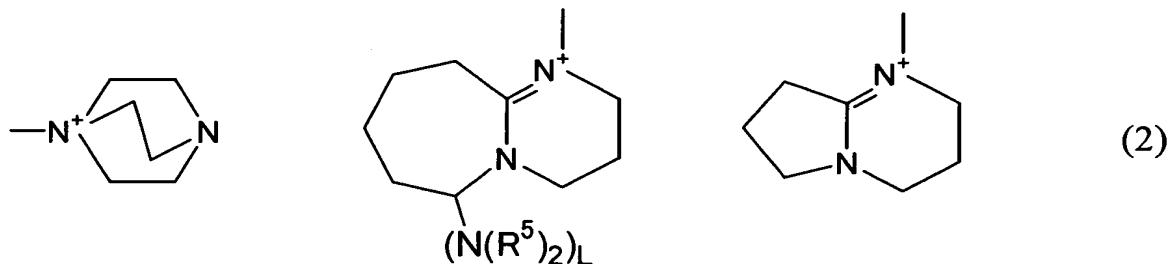
CLAIMS

1. A photocurable composition comprising (A) an episulfide compound containing a thiirane ring; and (B) a photo-base generator represented by the general formula (1):



wherein Ar is phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, phenathryl, anthracyl, pyrenyl, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthyl, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-1-naphthyl, thienyl, benzo[b]thienyl, naphtho[2,3-b]thienyl, thianthrenyl, dibenzofuryl, chromenyl, xanthenyl, thioxanthyl, phenoxanthinyl, terphenyl, stilbenyl or fluorenyl

10 which may be unsubstituted, or mono- or poly-substituted with an alkyl group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, an alkenyl group having 3 to 18 carbon atoms, an alkynyl group having 3 to 18 carbon atoms, a haloalkyl group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, NO_2 , OH, CN, OR^1 , SR^2 , C(O)R^3 , C(O)OR^4 or halogen wherein R, R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are respectively hydrogen or an alkyl group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms; A^+ is an ammonium ion selected from the group consisting of those represented by the structural formulae (2):



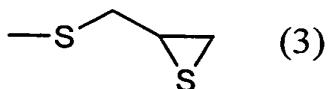
20 wherein L is 1 or 0; and R^5 is an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms; and X^- is a borate anion, an N,N-dimethyldithiocarbamate anion, an N,N-dimethylcarbamate anion, a thiocyanate anion or a cyanate anion.

2. The photocurable composition according to claim 1, wherein in the

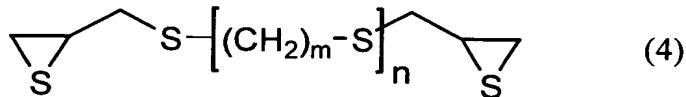
general formula (1), Ar is an unsubstituted phenyl, biphenyl or naphthyl group.

3. The photocurable composition according to claim 1, wherein in the
5 general formula (1), the counter anion X⁻ is a borate anion.

4. The photocurable composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the compound (A) is a compound having at least one structure represented by the structural formula (3):



5. The photocurable composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the compound (A) is represented by the following general formula (4):



15 wherein m is an integer of 0 to 4; and n is an integer of 0 to 2.

6. The photocurable composition according to claim 5, wherein in the general formula (4), the integer n is 0, or the integer n is 1 and the integer m is 0.

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7. The photocurable composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6, further comprising a solvent capable of dissolving the photo-base generator represented by the general formula (1).

25 8. A method for curing the photocurable composition as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7 by irradiation of ultraviolet rays, and a cured product obtained by the method.

9. A method of curing the photocurable composition as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7 in the absence of air, and a cured product obtained by the method.

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10. A coating composition comprising the photocurable composition as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7, and (C) a modified silicone oil.

11. The coating composition according to claim 10, further comprising
10 (D) a silane coupling agent.

12. A method of curing the coating composition as defined in claim 10 or
11 by irradiation of ultraviolet rays, and a coating film obtained by the method.

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13. A method of curing the coating composition as defined in claim 10 or
11 by irradiation of ultraviolet rays in the absence of air, and a coating film obtained by the method.

20 14. An optical product provided a surface thereof with the coating film as defined in claim 12 or 13.